

It is great to congratulate a university that understands its brilliance and its necessity in teaching the next generation of scientists, thinkers and humanitarians, and to also be called an excellent university.

Congratulations, Rice University, for your 100th year, for your service to this Nation, and for your reflection of the diversity of this great country.

□ 1230

RICE UNIVERSITY'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mr. CULBERSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CULBERSON. Madam Speaker, I have the singular privilege of representing Rice University, and I join my colleagues from Houston in recognizing and congratulating them on their 100th anniversary this year.

Rice has consistently been ranked as one of the Nation's greatest universities and recognized by U.S. News & World Report as among the Nation's top 20 universities. And they've consistently ranked in the top 50 universities in the world.

Rice University researchers are pioneers in a broad spectrum of fields, including space, energy, and my personal passion, nanotechnology. Nanotechnology is an absolute game-changer, revolutionizing everything that we will touch and see in the 21st century. Rice University is the birthplace of nanotechnology research.

Nanotechnology holds incredible potential for everything from curing cancer to improving the storage and transmission of electricity and moving electricity in ways that we cannot even imagine today, allowing us to miniaturize devices. Multistage nanoparticles will allow the delivery of cancer-curing drugs to individual structures within cells, allowing scientists to identify diseases at the cellular level, things that could not have been possible without the groundbreaking work at Rice University.

I congratulate them on their 100th anniversary today.

GET SOMETHING DONE

(Mr. BARBER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BARBER. Madam Speaker, I rise today as the Member who most recently faced an electorate, and I have heard loud and clear that the people of southern Arizona elected me for the very same reason the people of every other district elect their representative, to stand up for them.

I wasn't here to vote on the Affordable Health Care Act when it passed, but I appreciate its benefits and that we must work to improve it. I rise today to speak against this repeal.

We should be here having a robust discussion about how to make this law

better. We should be acting to ensure that Medicare doesn't pay more for prescription drugs than the VA, and to keep rising insurance costs from hurting small businesses. We should be looking for ways to create jobs, to strengthen our middle class, to bolster our economy. We should rise above partisan bickering, move on, and get something done.

This repeal bill sends a message to American families that this body cares more about political grandstanding than improving their lives. Let's put aside this charade and do the work for which we were elected.

DRACONIAN CUTS

(Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, the House farm bill calls for draconian cuts that hurt our most vulnerable Americans. I'll be blunt and just get straight to the point. The House-proposed cuts are completely unacceptable.

The SNAP program puts healthy food on the table for 46 million Americans every month. In my home State of California, close to 6½ million people struggle to put food on the table. An even worse statistic—and one that really breaks my heart: almost 2½ million children each year in California have had to go to bed hungry, and it's simply because their families couldn't afford food.

These proposed cuts to SNAP would quite literally take food out of the mouths of children. In my district, SNAP helps provide food for seniors, kids, veterans, and working families. About 20 percent of my constituents report that at some point last year, they couldn't buy food for themselves or their family. I don't understand why in good conscience Congress would ask millions of struggling Americans to go hungry in order to subsidize big agribusiness.

As a country, we cannot afford to turn our backs on those who need us most now.

DYSFUNCTIONAL POLITICS

(Mr. CARNAHAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, yesterday, a Republican Representative from my State actually told the truth about the 31st attempt to repeal the new health care law. He told a St. Louis newspaper that today's vote is just because "we want to get people on the record." We've done that 30 times already.

The Affordable Care Act is the law of the land. It was passed by the Congress, signed by the President, and found constitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court.

This Republican health care repeal bill isn't about people. It's about more divisive, dysfunctional politics. They

know the repeal bill is pointless, and there is no way we're going backwards to the broken health care system of the past. Let's use the time to pass a jobs bill. Let's pass the middle class tax cut extension that we all agree with. Let's pass my bill that will protect veterans returning from war zones from the impacts of psychological damage.

Today, our troops are killing themselves at a rate of nearly one a day. They urgently need our help. Let's do something for them. Let's do something that actually matters to the American people. Let's put ourselves on record for the people, for jobs, rather than wasting time casting the same vote 30 times.

PROTECTING AMERICANS AND THEIR LOCAL BANK ACCOUNTS

(Ms. EDWARDS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. EDWARDS. Madam Speaker, on my way home from work, I stopped at the local grocery store, and I stopped at the bank. My bank is located conveniently between my grocery store and the gas station, only minutes from my home.

I thought about the last 4 years and the fights that Democrats in Congress are waging to make sure working families can see more money in their bank accounts. It's been tough, but we've had some successes: reducing out-of-pocket health care expenses with preventive care, closing the prescription drug doughnut hole, protecting consumers from overdraft and ATM fees, even getting the American auto industry back on track as a mainstay of American manufacturing.

But we have some important fights ahead us. We are fighting to keep in place critical middle class tax cuts. We know Americans can't afford those tax hikes. We know American seniors can't afford the drastic cuts in Medicare in the Republican Tea Party budget.

Democrats are focused on growing the economy, creating jobs, and ensuring that Americans see more money in our neighborhood bank accounts—not on some other shore, not in some other country, and not on some island. Republicans say they worry about the same things, but today they're repealing health care and protecting the interests of millionaires because they care more about those folks than they do about hardworking Americans and their local bank accounts.

SAY "NO" TO CUTS IN FOOD ASSISTANCE

(Mr. PETERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to the proposed \$16.5 billion in cuts to SNAP in the farm bill.

SNAP is the most important antihunger program in the Nation,